

Friday, December 26. Took off from San Francisco. Noted a favorable collecting spot near Hueneme, another on the south slope of Mt. San Geronio, and three in the Grand Canyon of the Colorado.

Saturday, December 27. Attended the annual Council Meeting of the Society of Systematic Zoology, at St. Louis, Missouri.

Sunday, December 28. Delivered the annual report of the Nomenclature Committee of the same Society.

Monday, December 29. Attended sessions of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (still in St. Louis).

Tuesday, December 30. Presided at a session of contributed papers, of the SSZ.

Wednesday, December 31. Examined type-specimens at the United States National Museum, Washington, D. C.

Thursday, January 1. Conferred with colleagues at the Department of Fishes, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Friday, January 2. Noted favorable spots at Pyramid Lake, Nevada, and in a remote tributary of the American River. Returned to assiduous departmental preparations for the next field trip.

Wonder what Dr. Follett did in his spare time?

#### SALANAVE TO SPEAK

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING of the Astronomy Section will be held at 7:30 p. m., Wednesday, February 11, in the Lecture Room of the Student Section.

Leon E. Salanave, planetarium lecturer in charge of the Section, will discuss "Our Moving World." He will explain the motions of the earth and sun, starting with the earth's 24-hour axial rotation and ending with its 200,000,000-year journey, with the sun, about our Galaxy's center.

Plans for future activities will be discussed, and, weather permitting, there will be an observing session with the 4-inch refractor.

#### NEW MEMBERS

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS were elected by the Council at its meeting of January 8, 1953:

##### REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

Dr. John E. BeBaun  
Dr. Richard E. Blackwelder  
Miss Elaine A. Blair  
Miss Ann Cohn  
Col. Harry I. T. Creswell  
Mr. Paul R. Dupont  
Mr. Carl E. Erickson  
Mr. George George  
Mr. Bruce D. Giffen  
Mr. Ralph M. Heintz  
Mr. Wilbur B. Holden  
Mr. Robert C. Lennon  
Dr. Donald B. Lucas

Mr. Lloyd F. Lucks  
Mr. Russell Matthias  
Dr. Rexford McBride  
Mr. Reed E. Miller  
Mr. John S. Rockwell  
Mrs. O. E. Schaich  
Mr. Waldemar H. Sievers  
Dr. Samuel Spitz  
Mr. Dwight V. Strong  
Miss Etta H. Tessmer  
Miss Blanche Wallace  
Miss Mary V. Waugh  
Mr. D. C. Wigle  
Mr. Thomas Wolter

##### CONTRIBUTING MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Edward T. Haas  
Mr. Donald McGeein

##### STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

Bruce H. Stanley

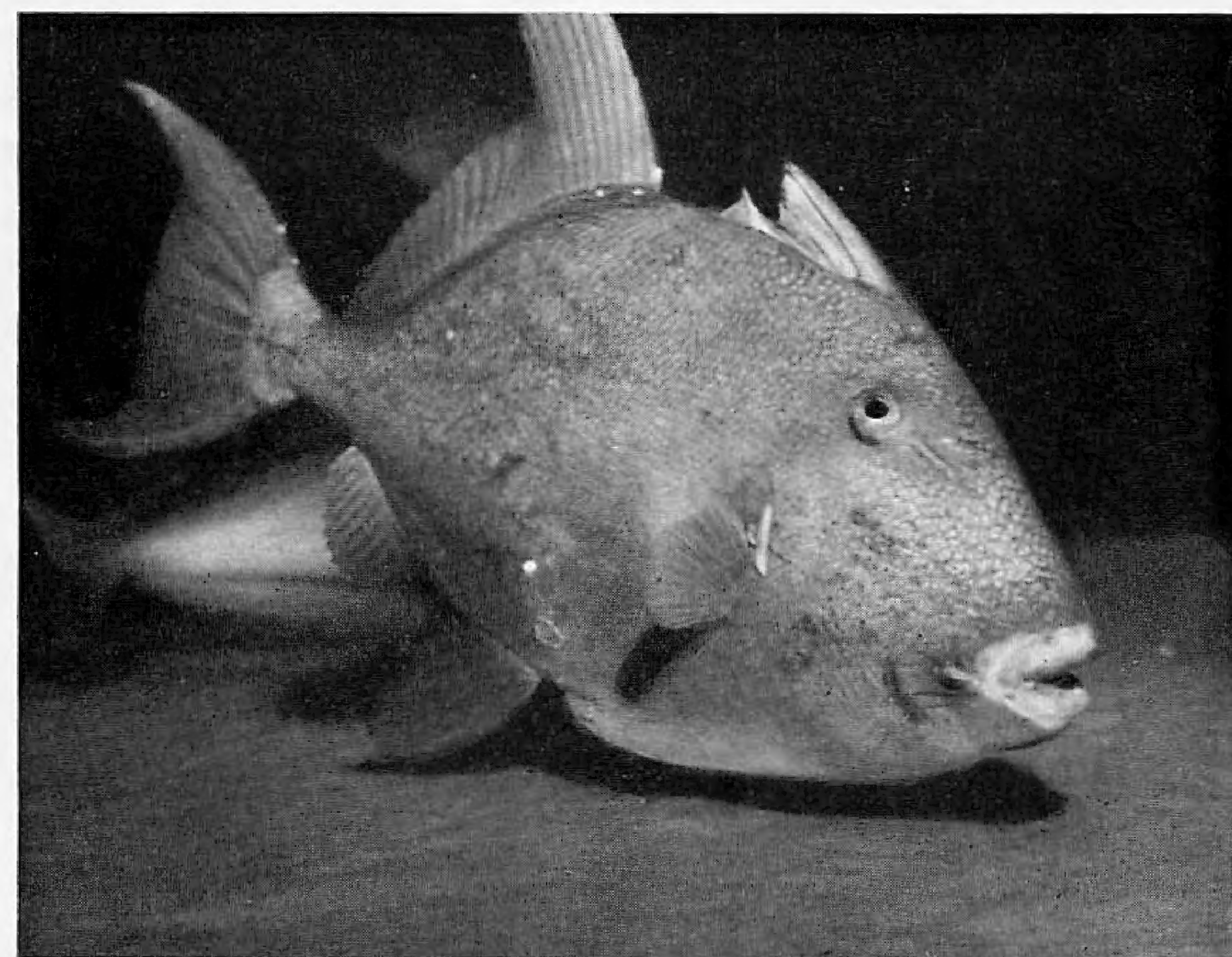
##### FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Hugh H. Hyde  
Dr. and Mrs. E. W. Irvine, Jr.  
Brig. Gen. H. F. Nichols  
Mr. Alfred E. Ralston

# ACADEMY NEWS LETTER

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# CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

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## February Announcement

THE REGULAR FEBRUARY MEETING of the California Academy of Sciences will be held at 8 P.M. Tuesday, February 3, in the Morrison Auditorium in the Academy Hall of Sciences, Golden Gate Park. Howard Cleaves, veteran nature photographer, will present:

### "BY SKY CRIB TO GLACIER"

The color motion picture was filmed on a father-and-son expedition from New York City to the Badlands of South Dakota, Grand Teton Mountains of Wyoming, Yellowstone National Park, and the rugged Kintla Lake country of Glacier National Park.

Highlighting the lecture is the filmed record of a ten-day trail trip by some thirty men and women into the high country around Kintla Lake and Boulder Pass. Accessible only on horseback or on foot, this area is one of the wildest sections of Glacier National Park. Above the timber line, trail crews of the National Park Service blasted away snow drifts to allow the party and its pack train of twenty-one horses to get through.

During the journey Howard Cleaves' camera registered action shots of moose, bear, mountain goats, prong-horned antelope, whistling marmots, Columbian ground squirrels, and the rarely seen pine marten.

Cleaves, who began taking motion pictures in 1913 under the tutelage of Thomas A. Edison, is an ace cameraman in the specialized field of wildlife photography. He was official photographer with the Pinchot South Sea Expedition. And his films have been released in theaters by Pathe News, Pathe Review, Fox News, and Paramount Pictures Corporation.

In making "By Sky Crib to Glacier," Cleaves and his son Henderson drove 7,500 miles in two months and exposed three thousand feet of film.

Cleaves lectures under the auspices of the National Audubon Society.

The public is cordially invited.

### SLEVIN RETURNS FROM ENGLAND

AFTER FOUR MONTHS of delving through records at the British Admiralty Office in London, Curator Joseph R. Slevin has returned to the Department of Herpetology to complete his history of the Galápagos Islands.

His trip was highly successful. He obtained a wealth of material from the Hydrographic Office, the National Maritime Museum, and the Imperial War Museum, all of which are divisions of the Admiralty Office.

Two other sources that were particularly fruitful were the Library of the British Museum, which is comparable to our Library of Congress, and the Public Records Office, where the logs of all British ships are filed eventually.

Slevin not only found much new material, but he was able to check his own photostats and references against original documents. From the Imperial War Museum he obtained pictures of many of the British naval vessels that have been associated with the Islands' history since the advent of photography. One of the oldest photographs that he brought back is of Commander Cookson's H.M.S. *Peterel*, which visited the Islands in 1875.

One picture bore a familiar name, H.M.S. *Leander*. It was the crew of the *Leander* that had set up the barrel that was still in use as a post office when Slevin visited the Galápagos Islands with the Academy Expedition of 1905-06. (Slevin notes that no one knows who set up the first barrel at Post Office Bay, but records indicate that one was being used as far back as 1794.)

Slevin's lifelong interest in the Galápagos Islands has taken him there twice—the second trip was in 1927-28. He says that he has now completed almost all of the research necessary for his history of the Islands.

While in England, Slevin lived in Kew, Surrey. He returned to the Academy on December 19.

### AQUARIUM ADDS MEXICAN FISH

MORE THAN 55 specimens of rare Mexican fish went on display at Steinhart Aquarium in mid-December.

The fish were collected along the Baja California coast by the *N. B. Scofield*, famous research vessel of the California Department of Fish and Game.

In the collection are six species of fish that are being exhibited in Steinhart Aquarium for the first time: ladyfish, spotted tropical lobsters, Mexican red snappers, Mexican porgies, Mexican triggers, and Mexican pompanos. Most eye-catching is the Mexican red snapper, who, as his name suggests, is a brilliant, beautiful red fish.

The Mexican trigger gets his name from a trigger assembly on his dorsal spine. With a body shaped almost like a disc, he would be an awkward mouthful for any larger fish hoping to swallow him, but his trigger gives him added protection. When the fish is attacked the trigger releases a spike (see cover picture) which normally lies, almost invisible, along his back. The spike is raised to a vertical position and is locked in place by the trigger assembly. After the danger is past, the spike is returned to its original position.

The spotted tropical lobsters in the collection look somewhat like our own southern California lobsters; both lack the large pinchers of the Maine variety.

Other Mexican fish in the collection include seven hornsharks, two large ocean whitefish, and 15 black croakers.

The fish were brought by truck from Long Beach, where the *Scofield* docked after having been engaged in fisheries investigations along the coast of Lower California.

### BEEN BUSY

MAKES US DIZZY to report it, but we should like, as newspapers say, "to reveal" what might be called the log of the Curator of the Department of Ichthyology for the week of December 26.

It reads: